

## TITLE OF THE INVENTION

## C-TERMINAL REGION OF AGOUTI-RELATED TRANSCRIPT (ART) PROTEIN

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

- 5                   Novel polypeptides derived from the C-terminal region of the human  
and mouse agouti related transcript (ART) proteins are provided. Also provided are  
DNA sequences encoding the novel C-terminal polypeptides. The novel C-terminal  
polypeptides can be used to inhibit the binding of melanocyte stimulating hormones  
to melanocortin receptors. Methods of identifying inhibitors of the binding of ART  
10   protein to melanocortin receptors are also provided.